

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 /022 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:IPERNICK:AVW

APPROVED BY S/PRS:RLFUNSETH

S/S:REWOODS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 277

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, H. A.)

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, MARCH 10

NO. 12

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

1. CAMBODIAN NEGOTIATIONS - FUNSETH DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WEEKEND (NYT) REPORT THAT THE SECRETARY REBUFFED A PROPOSAL BY AMB. DEAN IN 1974 TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH KI LEADERS. BUT, HE RECALLED DEPT'S STATEMENT LAST WEEK OF U.S. EFFORTS TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS; AND OUR NUMEROUS AND CONTINUOUS ATTEMPTS TO DEMONSTRATE IN CONCRETE AND SPECIFIC WAYS OUR READINESS TO SEE AN EARLY COMPROMISE SETTLEMENT IN CAMBODIA. ASKED ABOUT CURRENT U.S. EFFORTS, FUNSETH NOTED HABIB'S COMMENT LAST WEEK THAT OTHER SIDE APPEARS INTERESTED NOT IN NEGOTIATIONS BUT RATHER IN A MILITARY SOLUTION. HAD NO COMMENT ON REPORTED SEN. SCOTT CALL FOR REMOVAL OF LON NOL, BUT RECALLED DEPT RESPONSE OF LAST WEEK ON LON NOL'S TALKS WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION. FINALLY, EXPRESSED UNAWARENESS OF ANY U.S. REFUSAL OF A KI NEGOTIATING ATTEMPT.

2. SOUTH VIETNAM SITREP - INFORMATION IS INCOMPLETE, BUT
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AS WIDELY REPORTED, NVN HAS RESUMED ITS ANTICIPATED DRY

SEASON OFFENSIVE. FUNSETH NOTED THIS OFFENSIVE DEMONSTRATES HANOI'S GROSS VIOLATION OF PARIS ACCORDS. SINCE JANUARY

CLOSE TO 50,000 TROOPS HAVE INFILTRATED INTO SVN. ACTING SPOKESMAN SAID THESE DEVELOPMENTS HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR THE \$300 MILLION APPROPRIATION ALREADY AUTHORIZED FOR SOUTH VIETNAM.

3. IEA MEETING - U.S. DELEGATION WAS GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF MARCH 6-7 MEETING AND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING. UNDERSTAND THAT IN GENERAL U. S. CONCEPT ON OIL PRICING HAD BEEN FAVORABLY RECEIVED, BUT DELIBERATIONS WILL CONTINUE AT NEXT MEETING.

4. IRAN AND THE KURDS - HAD NO INFORMATION THAT IRAN HAS TOLD THE U. S. IT WILL NO LONGER SUPPORT THE KURDS (AS REPORTED BY GELB TODAY IN THE TIMES).

5. ECUADOR AND U.S. TUNA BOATS - NOT SEEN GOV. REAGAN'S STATEMENT CALLING FOR U. S. NAVY TO PROTECT TUNA BOATS BUT STATED WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THREAT OR USE OF FORCE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE OR EFFECTIVE. BELIEVE FINDING A SOLUTION BY DIPLOMATIC MEANS IS BEST.

6. SAUDI DISCRIMINATION AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS - RECALLED PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S STRONG AND FORTHRIGHT STATEMENTS AGAINST ANY FORM OF DISCRIMINATION. REFERRED QUESTION ON SAUDI VISA PROCEDURES TO SAUDIS.

7. SPANISH BASE AND AZORES NEGOTIATIONS - IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION SUBSEQUENT TO BRIEFING, WE POSTED STATEMENT THAT FOURTH ROUND OF SPANISH-U.S. COOPERATION NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN TODAY. ALSO NOTED THAT THE MCCLOSKEY-THERMIDO AZORES TALKS ARE CONTINUING, BUT THAT THERE ARE NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS TO REPORT. INGERSOLL

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